

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to correct typographical errors noted by the examiner.

The specification has also been amended on page 34 to refer to reference numeral "402" to harmonize the specification with the drawings.

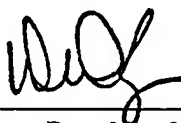
The related applications section has been amended to claim continuation-in-part status from United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/827,260, filed April 5, 2001, and entitled Methods for Treating Fractured and/or Diseased Bone (now U.S. Patent 6,726,691). The requisite Petition and fee accompany this amendment.

The revised claim for priority removes the '691 Patent as a reference under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Therefore, the rejections of claims 1 to 12 based upon the '691 Patent should be withdrawn.

Original claim 9 is not subject to rejection based upon the combination of Scholten et al (US 4,969,888) with Schiff (US 4,467,790). Accordingly, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of original claim 9, and claim 9 has therefore been cancelled.

Independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2 to 8 and 10 to 12 remain in the application. These claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,

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